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Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 09179 202148Z

21
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAB-01

/058 W
---------- 106234
R 202128Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1456
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
INFO USCINCSO
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 9179

REFS: (A) PANAMA 5019, (B) PANAMA 5447

1. THE EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT THE TACK TEAM BRIEFED THE NATIONAL DEFENSE STAFF ON SEPTEMBER 8 AND DEPARTED FOR LIMA THE NEXT DAY. THERE WAS NO MENTION OF THE TEAM IN THE PRESS, AND WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO GET ANY FEEDBACK FROM THE CHILEAN MILITARY.

2. A SENIOR CHILEAN CAREER DIPLOMAT TOLD AN EMBOFF SEPTEMBER 17 THAT THE GOC HAD RECEIVED CONFLICTING INFORMATION ON WHAT THE PANAMANIANS WANTED. THE TACK TEAM ASKED ONLY FOR TALKS WITH THE DEFENSE STAFF, HOWEVER, WHICH THEY GOT. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY SENT A MEMORANDUM TO THE DEFENSE STAFF
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PAGE 02 SANTIA 09179 202148Z

RECOMMENDING THAT CONSIDERABLE CARE BE TAKEN NOT TO COMMIT

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

THE GOC TO ANYTHING. OUR SOURCE SAID THE ONLY INFORMATION HE HAD ON THE MEETING WAS THAT THE CHILEAN MILITARY ASKED NO QUESTIONS OF THE BRIEFING TEAM.

3. THE CONSENSUS IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IS THAT THE WEST COAST COUNTRIES ARE BEST SERVED BY LEAVING THE CANAL AS IT IS. THE CHILEANS FEEL THAT IF THE PANAMANIANS COULD DO SO, THEY WOULD PROBABLY RAISE THE TOLLS AS HIGH AS THE TRAFFIC WOULD BEAR, TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF THEIR SOUTHERN FRIENDS.
POPPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 20 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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Subject: BRIEFING TEAM
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, XM, PN, PQ
To: STATE PANAMA
Type: TE
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